

**Utah Special Education Advisory Panel**  
**Minutes**  
**January 22, 2004**

**Present:** USEAP Members – Teri Beck, Starr Foley Jennie Gibson, Karen Hahne, Sue Hirase, Sharon Lallathin, Lorna Larsen, Dan Leatham, Tericia Leavitt, Ami Neff, Stephanie Rich, Colleen Riley, Corrie Watkins, Jill Weight,

Additional Members to Self-Assessment Steering Committee – Patrice Isabella, Dwight Moore

USOE Staff – Rebecca Donovan, Nan Gray, Karen Kowalski, Susan Loving, Cal Newbold, Connie Nink, Bruce Schroeder, Karl Wilson

**Welcome and Introductions:** Jill Weight thanked everyone for attending.

**Approval of Minutes:** A correction was noted on page one, the paragraph Beginning “National Dual Disabilities . . . “ the word dual should be changed to read developmental.

**Motion:** Sue Hirase – Move the minutes of November 11, 2003 be approved as corrected.

**Second:** Lorna Larsen

Motion passed.

**IEP Facilitator Project** – Karen Kowalski reported on a new project to be piloted in two districts that will allow for more and continued communication between parents and the district. The IEP facilitator is not an advocate, not a member of the IEP team, and the notes of the facilitator cannot be subpoenaed.

**Special Education Self-Assessment** – Karl Wilson reported that OSEP will make a verification visit to Utah on April 27, 28 and 29. There will be a conference call with OSEP and the Chairs of the Cluster Groups for the self-assessment monitoring.

**Cluster Groups Breakout Session**

The committee came back together and time was then turned over to the five cluster groups for a brief report on their activities and findings. The groups will meet again during the next two months to refine their work in preparation for the conference call in March and the verification visit in April.

Cluster Groups Breakout Session – Groups met individually to discuss their next steps.

*-----End of Self-Assessment Steering Committee portion of the USEAP meeting-----*

**State Improvement Grant** – Bruce Schroeder reported that the U. S. Office of Education has made a new RFP available for a three-year state improvement grant for states who are in the final year of their five-year of their state improvement grant (Utah’s SIGNAL Project). Utah will be applying for this new three-year grant. The Utah Agenda will serve as the Utah’s vision for state improvement. Areas that will be looked for nationally include: positive behavior supports, literacy for non-responders, and recruitment and retention.

**Special Education Website** - Bruce Schroeder reported that the website for special education is being redesigned and will be going live in February.

**USEAP Brochure** – Corrie Watkins reported that she will get the most recent version she has of the committee's work to Rebecca.

**USOE Update** - Karl Wilson

- New Staff – Karl reported that USOE has hired Carol Anderson and the new Behavior Specialist.
- Deaf/Blind State Plan – The January meeting was postponed.
- Legislative Update – A bill is being proposed that would use public education funding to provide scholarships for students with disabilities to attend private schools.

**Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned. Next meeting: March 25, 2004.